



BILL ROSENDAHL

City of Los Angeles
Councilmember, Eleventh District

Committees

Chair, Transportation
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Member, Budget & Finance
Member, Ad Hoc on Economic Recovery &
Reinvestment
Member, Board of Referred Powers

June 9, 2011

City Planning Commission
200 N. Spring Street Room 272
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Honorable Commissioners,

It is my pleasure to convey my whole-hearted support for the proposed Third Amendment to the Howard Hughes Development Agreement.

The proposed Third Amendment will provide the time and flexibility necessary to complete Howard Hughes Center with uses that will best serve the surrounding neighborhoods and region. The proposed modifications respond to community requests that Equity Office Properties make allowance for a broader range of uses (in addition to commercial office, hotel and residential, as currently allowed) on the four remaining undeveloped lots, such as additional retail, senior housing, supermarkets or additional medical uses. This objective is widely supported by my constituents.

I am thrilled that Equity has also worked closely with the community and my office to create an accompanying public benefit that will greatly enhance quality of life for the entire Westchester community. Specifically, in addition to the significant public benefits previously provided by Howard Hughes Center, Equity has agreed to provide \$1,850,000.00 to the Westchester Streetscape Improvement Association ("WSIA") for improvements to Sepulveda Boulevard, which, combined with the \$150,000 Equity previously provided for such purposes when the Second Amendment was approved, brings the total funds to be contributed by Howard Hughes Center for the Sepulveda streetscape to \$2 million.

This funding is anticipated to enable the WSIA to complete unfunded physical and landscaping improvements along Sepulveda Boulevard through the heart of the Westchester community (74th Street to 84th Street) envisioned by the Westchester Streetscape Improvement Plan. The improvements will remove visual blight in the area and encourage and protect pedestrian activity along Sepulveda, and have been a longstanding priority for this community. Moreover, Equity's contribution is also anticipated to be sufficient to fund ongoing maintenance to ensure that this benefit continues long into the future; a critical issue in this time of City budget shortfalls and

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cutbacks. Given the challenges of the current economy, residents feared they would need to wait many more years to obtain the funding needed to make this critically important project a reality, but Equity has stepped to the mark.

It is not often that a project both furthers sound planning objectives and provides a tangible and immediate benefit truly desired by the surrounding community. I am proud to support this project and hope that you will join me in encouraging the full Council to adopt the proposed Third Amendment to the Howard Hughes Development Agreement.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bill RosendaHL", written in a cursive style.

BILL ROSENDAHL

Councilmember, 11th District

BR: wb